

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
all the earth! Serve the Lord with
gladness! Come into his presence with
singing! Know that the Lord, he is
God! It is he who made us, and we
are his; we are his people, and the sheep
of his pasture. Enter his gates with
thanksgiving, and his courts with
praise! Give thanks to him; bless his
name! For the Lord is good; his
steadfast love endures forever, and
his faithfulness to all generations.*

Psalm II

A DEVOTIONAL RESOURCE *for* FAMILIES

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How to Use This Book

The book you now have in your hands has been a labor of love. It began with a realization that no matter how excellent and effective our teaching may be, it cannot compete with the influence of you as parents. God has called you specifically and gifted you uniquely to lead your kids “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” Plainly said, you are the greatest spiritual influence in the lives of your kids. To some of you that is a very intimidating and overwhelming thought (I know I feel that way).

Therefore, we as the church want to help encourage and equip you in your role as the primary discipler of your children, and that is why this book exists. Our goal is to set you up in the best way that we can to have spiritual conversations as a family. Our hope is that you will have opportunities on Sundays, perhaps at lunch after Sunday school, as well as a couple of times a week with the Family Devotionals provided, to talk about God and His importance in our everyday lives.

To help accomplish this, we have standardized the Sunday school curriculum so that everyone from JK-12th grade will be learning the same things each week (age appropriately, of course). This allows you as parents to know exactly what all of your kids are learning without having to keep track of multiple emails or schedules. Below you will find exactly what is included and how best to use it.

Outline

We provide you with the main points that your students will be learning each week. We do this so you can be best prepared to discuss what they learned and answer any questions that might come up. We also have included a lengthy section of context for each lesson. We believe it is important for all of us to see how each story in the Bible does not stand alone, but instead fits into the larger drama that God has unfolded.

Follow-up Questions

The point of these questions is to be conversation starters for you as a family. They are not exhaustive as to the content of what your children have learned that Sunday, but should just get things started for your family. Our hope is that your children will come to expect a conversation about what they learned in Sunday school for two main reasons. First, we want them to see spiritual conversations as a normal and important part of life and second, we hope this expectation will make them more attentive to what they are learning.

Family Devos

We have provided two days worth of Family Devotionals for you to do as a family at home. We chose this number so as to not overwhelm families or discourage them for not being able to live up to expectations. Our hope is that the two provided will be a springboard for even more times of family worship during the week. The two we have included will help build a foundation for the Bible character that they will study on Sunday. You will also see a page on “How to Do Family Devotions” which is there only as a resource for you and not a concrete model that must be followed. In the end, the most important thing is for families to spend time together focused on God’s Word and prayer; how that is accomplished is secondary.

Andrew Keasling

Teaching Schedule

This curriculum was originally derived as a 10-week summer devotional Bible study for families. The following dates apply to summer of 2017, but please study as you like.

WEEK	PSALM	THEME
June 4	Psalm 13	Trust the Lord
June 11	Psalm 27	Do Not Fear
June 18	Psalm 29	Ascribe God Glory
June 25	Psalm 32	Pray to the Lord
July 2	Psalm 46	Be Still Before God
July 9	Psalm 51	Confess the Lord
July 16	Psalm 66	Come to God
July 23	Psalm 67	Praise Him
July 30	Psalm 95	Sing to the Lord
August 6	Psalm 100	Enter His Gates

How To Do Family Devotions

When discussing family devotions, the first thing you must know is that there is not just one correct way to do them. Each family is made up of distinct individuals, each with a different personality. Therefore, trying to create a “one-size-fits-all” approach to family devotions is foolish. Below are some helpful hints and guidelines as you lead your devotions. Some of them will be very helpful, while some you will realize do not work for your family. In the end, the point is for you as a family to take time together reading God’s Word and praying. However you accomplish this is truly a secondary concern.

PLACE MATTERS

- It will be important to find a consistent place where you always do family devotions. Changing the location can drastically change the dynamics.
- Everyone should be at the same eye level. You don’t want some on the floor and some in chairs or on the couch. This will encourage participation by all members because they will feel as if they are a part of the group.
- Minimize the distractions. Honestly, doing family devotions is hard enough! Only you know what might distract your kids so be sure you eliminate as many interruptions as possible.

PRAYER MATTERS

- It is important for your children to see the importance of prayer. Therefore, be sure that you pray to begin and end your time together. Often it works best to choose one family member to open the time in prayer (which also helps settle busy hearts). At the end is an opportunity to let everyone pray.
- Give your children a role in prayer. One of the things that my family does that has been successful is that we have four prayer categories: 1–Zachary’s class, 2–Bryson’s Class, 3–Our extended family and friends, and 4–Missions. Each time we give someone in the house one of these prayer categories. To minimize the “I want...” of our children, we rotate who assigns who to prayer. That way, everyone gets a chance to decide who prays for what. It has saved a lot of disagreements. For our missions category, we alternate between a local partner and an international partner and it has been such a blessing to watch and hear our kids pick up on and pray for those ministries. We also switch it up some nights and just have a time of confession or adoration or thanksgiving so they don’t think of God as just someone from whom you ask things.

THE WORD MATTERS

- God’s Word is the only thing He promises will bear fruit. It is so important to not only expose them to God’s Word but also to teach them how to think about it. One of the best ways to start doing this is to continually remind them that these stories are REAL – Isaiah 55:11.
- Get them to interact with the Bible for themselves. It is a huge temptation to just provide the answers for them (since we know everything) but they will get so much more out of it if they think about it for themselves. The hardest part for me in this is that I lose the control. I have to constantly remind myself that I want them to get something out of God’s Word and not get frustrated when they don’t get out what I want them to.

HOW TO DO FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- Encourage every little step. It will be very important to encourage every interaction they have with God's Word. They will be more willing to share when they know it is a safe place for them to come with their thoughts. At times, that will mean you are going to go down some rabbit trails, but it will be worth the journey. As a part of that, you need to make sure that they get the truth; this means gently correcting when their theology gets out of whack.

TIME MATTERS

- One of the most important things you are teaching your children is that being together is very important. Just the simple act of carving out time every week that does not involve the TV or a meal out will bear fruit. The intentional act of studying the Word and prayer together will bear fruit even if it is down the line.
- Have fun! I know it sounds silly but if your kids have fun doing family devotions, they will want to keep doing them. For us, that is a short game or a role playing moment at the beginning but for you, it can be whatever. Sometimes I think we are afraid that we will be irreverent when we attempt to have fun, but we must remember that God created fun and laughter, so participating in those activities pleases Him.

D6 Driving Values

At Second, we believe in three guiding principles, known as the D6 Driving Values. We hope that as you and your family go through these devotions together, you will be further encouraged in your relationship with the Lord, your church community, and in your Kingdom mission.

The Lord is My Primary Devotion

- Confronted by the holiness of Christ, I seek Him in daily worship, prayer, and repentance. *Isaiah 6:1-8*
- Compelled by the love of Christ, I strive to be obedient to Him in my thoughts, words, and deeds. *II Corinthians 5:14*
- Created new in Christ, my identity is no longer in the things of this world. *II Corinthians 5:17*
- Confident of the eternity secured for me in Christ, I have peace in the midst of the troubles of this life. *Philippians 4:6-7*

The Church is My Primary Community

- Knowing that the Gospel liberates me from idols, I cannot imagine not joyfully worshipping God every week with my brothers and sisters in Christ. *Thessalonians 1:9b*
- Knowing that the Church is called to be a holy nation, set apart from the things of the world, I will embrace this calling by seeking to be Christ-like in all aspects of my life. *I Peter 2:9-12*
- Knowing that I am a steward of my resources and not an owner, I cheerfully release my resources to build His Kingdom and not my own. *Matthew 25:14-30*
- Knowing that the Body of Christ is essential to my sanctification, I actively seek relationship and accountability within the church in order to grow in Christ. *Ephesians 4:11-16*
- Knowing that God has given me spiritual gifts to use in the church, I willingly serve. *I Corinthians 12:4-7*
- Knowing that Jesus is present where two or more are gathered in His name, I happily pray with and for my brothers and sisters in Christ. *Matthew 18:20*

Building Christ's Kingdom is My Primary Mission

- Belonging to Christ's Kingdom causes us to live as a distinct people who are called to be about applying Christ's work of redemption as far as the curse is found as we eagerly await His imminent return and the renewal of all things. *Romans 8:19-21*
- Building Christ's Kingdom in all of life is an act of worship, and the reason I am alive is to multiply worshippers and redeem culture. *II Corinthians 5:16-21*
- Building Christ's Kingdom begins in multiplying worshippers of Christ in my own household. *Joshua 24:15*
- Building Christ's Kingdom is the lens through which I filter every decision as I further the work of redemption. *Romans 12:1-2*
- Building Christ's Kingdom prioritizes Christ's work of redemption to the extent of intentionally sacrificing our time, money, and talents in furthering the application of the redemption of Christ. *I Corinthians 10:31-33*

Psalms

The book of Psalms has long been favored among Christians. You can't go far today without seeing a verse from the Psalms plastered on a coffee mug or attached to a social media post. The Psalms were always meant to be more than just an uplifting thought for the day but instead their purpose was to speak deeply into our hearts. Whereas much of the Old Testament books recounted the lives of God's people out in the world, the book of Psalms reflected what their lives should be about in the Temple as they worshipped God.

The book of Psalms is a collection of poems written by at least four different authors (Moses, David, Solomon and Asaph) and a group of authors (Sons of Korah) written from the time of the Passover all the way through the exile. Although there was variety in authors and contexts, the purpose remained the same: the worship of the One, True, and Living God. One of the distinctive elements of the Psalms, which makes them so beloved and accessible, is the transparency and vulnerability of the authors. The Lord used people such as David and the circumstances of their lives to benefit His people thousands of years later. We get the unique privilege of seeing into the private thoughts that were deep in David's heart as if we were reading his diary or journal. His honesty with and before the Lord in good times and bad encourages us all to emulate that in our prayers as well. He challenges us to prove whether we think we can truly be honest with God and still be loved and accepted by Him as His people.

Overall, the Psalms is a book of praises. Most of the prayers and poems found in the Psalms have either musical terms included with them (most of which we are unable to fully translate) or are prefaced with instructions for the choirmaster, thus revealing that they were meant to be sung by the congregation (in the early church that is exactly how the Psalms was used). As you read through the Psalms, you will see their fingerprints as the literary inspiration for so many of the hymns and worship songs we use today. God is making plain that His Word is not just for the purpose of mental exercise through intellectual assent but is meant to penetrate to the deepest core of who we are and be used to express the cries of our heart back to the Lord.

As you may recall, last summer we focused on who the Lord is; this summer, we will focus on the Psalms that reveal to us our response to who God is and what He has done for us., However, each Psalm includes both parts, God's revelation and our response. As a way to put into practice our responses to God I want to encourage the singing of Psalms both in Sunday School and in Family Devotions as a way to express our worship and also reinforce God's design for His Word. For each lesson I have included a song based on the Psalm we are studying with a YouTube clip so you can sing it at home. My prayer is that this summer you will get a foretaste of what is to come for us as believers and that you will gladly begin to do that for which you were created and that which you will do for eternity: praise the Lord. May God use His Word to engage your heart in a new way where you will be encouraged to raise your voice in thanksgiving and praise the your Lord and God.

WEEK

1

Psalm 13

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are called to trust God even when life is hard

Psalm 13

Context

- A psalm written by David to be sung by the congregation
- David is going through a very difficult time
- To show that we can approach God honestly when things are hard

Outline

- I. David's honesty before God
 - A. We get to catch a glimpse of David's prayer journal here
 - B. David shares what is on his heart—asks God questions
 1. Will you forget me forever?
 - a. Feels alone in his struggles
 2. How long will you hide your face from me?
 - a. Feels God is avoiding him in his pain
 3. How long must I take counsel in my soul?
 - a. Feels he has no one to turn to in order to help him so must keep it all in
 4. How long must I have sorrow in my heart all day?
 - a. Feels overwhelmed by sadness and that it is always with him
 5. How long will my enemy be exalted over me?
 - a. Feels like his enemies do not struggle as he does
 - C. If we are honest, we don't think we can approach the Lord like this
 1. We think we need to never share our struggles and doubts with Him
 2. We think it is being disloyal or ungrateful to be frustrated
 3. David gives us an example of being able to do this as a "man after God's own heart"
 4. Called to pour our hearts out to Him—Psalm 62:8

II. David's plea before God

- A. He didn't just want to complain but wants to see change
- B. Asks God to consider and answer
 - 1. Really wants to hear from the Lord on this
- C. Asks also for God to change his perspective on it
 - 1. "Light up my eyes"
 - 2. He is asking for a new perspective
 - a. Think about how hard it is to see in the dark until you turn the light on and what a difference that makes
 - b. To see things as they truly are and not just how he thinks they are
 - c. Be reminded of what is to come
 - Our enemies will not ultimately prevail
 - Jesus has already won the battle for us

III. David's response to God

- A. Remember the past
 - 1. "I have trusted in your steadfast love"
 - 2. Reminder that God has been trustworthy all his life
 - 3. Reminder that God loves him with an unchanging love
 - a. Not dependent upon David's actions
- B. Hope for the future
 - 1. Even in the midst of struggle, David is confident of what is to come
 - 2. "My heart shall rejoice in your salvation"
 - a. Knows that God will be with him
 - b. Knows that this sadness will not have the final word
 - 3. "I will sing to the Lord"
 - a. Knows that all of this will result in God's praise
 - b. David will praise God for what God has done for him
 - Dealt bountifully
 - Provided for him in abundance
 - Ephesians 3:20

IV. So What??!!

- A. God desires for us to pour our hearts out to Him
 - 1. To truly have a relationship with Him means that we will be frustrated and that we should be honest with Him
 - 2. Even if we don't say it He knows how we feel so we need to be willing to share it with Him
- B. We need to trust God even during difficult times
 - 1. Remember all that He has done for you
 - 2. Ask Him to "light up your eyes" to see the truth and not just your circumstances
 - 3. Have hope that something greater than our struggles is coming
 - We have hope for eternal life with God
 - God has dealt so bountifully with us

Song of the Week

- Psalm 13
<http://vineyardsongs.com/songs/psalm-13/>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What was interesting about David's prayer? Do you feel like you could pray like that?
- What are a few things that God has done for you that would be good to remember?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- Have you ever prayed to the Lord like David did this morning? Why or why not?
- When is a time that you felt like God had left you alone? What did you do?
- What are a few ways that you can be trusting the Lord in your life right now?

Psalm 13

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Trust Fall–Have one person stand with their eyes closed facing away from a member of the family. Have the person behind them be ready to catch them. Without looking the one with their eyes closed falls backwards to be caught by the person behind. After everyone has done, talk about why it was hard and what you felt

READ PROVERBS 3:5-6

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does verse 5 say we are to do?
- What does trust mean?
- How are we supposed to trust God?
- What are we not supposed to “lean on”?
- What does it mean to “acknowledge” God?
- What is one thing you want to trust God for?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you show you trust something or someone?
- What does it mean to trust God with all your heart? What does that even look like?
- How is trusting God different than trusting your own understanding?
- What are specific ways you are acknowledging God?
- Why is it so hard to truly trust God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Where are areas in which you are having a hard time trusting God right now? Why?
- What are ways you are trusting yourself instead of God right now?
- What are specific ways you are acknowledging God?
- Why is it so hard to truly trust God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Psalm 13: <http://vineyardsongs.com/songs/psalm-13/>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 13

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Have everyone take turns and say 5 great things that God has done for them.

READ PSALM 20

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What sticks out to you from the things that follow “May the Lord” in the first 5 verses?
- What things you do typically ask God for?
- What does David say he knows in verse 6? Do you know that also?
- What does it say that other people trusted in? Why do you think they trusted in those?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you have prayed like the first 5 verses?
- What are the things that you typically pray about? Why those?
- What is your level of confidence when you pray?
- What are things you know for sure about God?
- Why would it “make sense” according to the world to trust in chariots and horses?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are things you would like to ask God but are afraid to? Why?
- What are some things you know for sure about God?
- What things are you tempted to trust in besides God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Psalm 13: <http://vineyardsongs.com/songs/psalm-13/>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

2

Psalm 27

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are called to not fear because we know the Lord is with us

Psalm 27

Context

- A psalm written by David
- Focused on how God's people should respond when they have enemies

Outline

- I. David prepares God's people for difficulty in this life
 - A. Because we belong to the Lord we will have those who stand against us
 - B. David uses 6 different words to describe those against us
 1. Verse 2- Evildoers, Adversaries and Foes
 2. Verse 3- Army
 3. Verse 6 and 11- Enemies
 4. Verse 12- False Witnesses
 - C. It is easy to get overwhelmed and nervous that we have so many people who are against us
 1. Jesus acknowledged this to His disciples as well
 - a. John 15:18-19
 - b. John 16:33
- II. David reminds them that even though many are against them, God is for them
 - A. The Lord is my light
 1. Darkness was when much evil was done so people were afraid of it
 2. God is the light that scatters the darkness and gives us hope
 - B. The Lord is my salvation
 1. He is powerful enough to protect us and rescue us from our enemies
 2. He has defeated even our biggest enemies—sin and death

- C. The Lord is my stronghold
 - 1. He is the place where we can run and be protected
 - 2. We can hide ourselves in His strength
 - D. Therefore he asks them a question—If God is for us then why should we fear those against us?
- III. David tells the people what their response should be
- A. Seek God's face—verses 4&8
 - 1. When we are afraid we need to look to God and not at our circumstances
 - 2. As Peter was walking on water he was safe and secure as long as he looked at Jesus but once he looked at the winds and the waves he began to sink—Matthew 14:30
 - 3. We should want to long to gaze upon God's beauty
 - a. Can only be done when we are with Him in heaven
 - b. Dwell in His house forever
 - c. Called to go before and ask of Him
 - B. Wait for the Lord
 - 1. We shouldn't try and fight our own battles apart from Him
 - a. Not try to get our own revenge and victory
 - 2. We are called to trust in God's plan and timing
- IV. So What??!!
- A. We need to remember that we do not need to be afraid
 - 1. God is for us and takes care of us
 - 2. We have a hope beyond this world—heaven
 - 3. We have a helper stronger than this world
 - a. 1 John 4:4
 - B. We need to trust God's plan and provision for us
 - 1. Believe that His plan is the best for us even when it is hard and we don't understand

Song of the Week

- Whom Shall I Fear?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOkImV2cJDg>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- Why does this psalm tell us that we shouldn't be afraid?
- What are some things that cause you to fear?
- How can you give those fears to the Lord?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What things cause you to fear the most? Why?
- What hope does this psalm give you in regards to your fears?
- How do you see God being the light in your life? Salvation in your life? Stronghold in your life?

Psalm 27

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your biggest fear? Why do you think you are so scared of that? How do you overcome it?

READ ISAIAH 43:1-7

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does Isaiah remind us of in verse 1? Why is that important?
- What situations does Isaiah talk about in verse 2? How would you feel going through those?
- Why should we not be afraid?
- What does the Lord say about us in verse 4? How does that make you feel?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are the implications that God has called you by name and that you belong to Him?
- How does it make you feel that when you are going through hard times that God is with you?
- When is the last time you thought about being precious to God and loved by Him?
- What difference does all this make when it comes to being afraid?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How would you live differently if you truly believed that you are God's?
- How have you seen God help you through a difficult situation?
- When is the last time you thought about being precious to God and loved by Him?
- What difference does all this make when it comes to being afraid?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Whom Shall I Fear: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOkImV2cJDg>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 27

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When was the last time you remember being very afraid and what did you do?

READ DEUTERONOMY 31:1-8

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was happening with Moses here and who was going to replace him?
- How would you feel if you were Joshua having to follow Moses as leader?
- What did God tell Moses that He would do?
- What does Moses tell the people to do in verse 6? How do we do that?
- Why could they be strong and courageous?
- How do you feel about the fact that God will NEVER leave you or forsake you?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Put yourself in Joshua's shoes for a minute. How would you feel replacing someone as great as Moses? What would you do?
- How could the people stay secure after losing Moses as leader?
- What does it mean that God will never leave us or forsake us? How does that make you feel?
- How are you living a "strong and courageous" life?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What is a circumstance that made it hard for you to trust God because of something that happened?
- What does it mean that God will never leave us or forsake us? How does that make you feel?
- When have you felt forsaken by God? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Whom Shall I Fear: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOkImV2cJDg>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

3

Psalm 29

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are called to give God the glory that He deserves

Psalm 29

Context

- A psalm written by David
- Focus is on what should be our main activity as humans

Outline

- I. David tells God's people what they are created to do
 - A. Ascribe
 1. It is a command word—not asking but telling them
 2. Word is also translated “give” in other places in the Old Testament
 - B. Glory
 1. God's greatness—as seen in the pillar of fire and cloud in Exodus 16
 2. Due His Name
 - a. Our main goal as created beings is to make God's Name known throughout the world
 - b. Give Him credit for all He has done
 - C. Because of His Holiness
 - a. God is perfect and without sin
 - b. Only being of which this is true
 - c. Therefore we need to praise Him for who He is
- II. David reminds them of the Lord's power and presence
 - A. Describes the voice of the Lord
 1. To hear someone's voice they must be present with you at this time
 - a. God is big enough to send His voice throughout the world but He gives this picture to show His intimacy with His people
 2. Simply what God can do with His words
 3. Not even what He can do with His hands and actions

4. God brought all things into creation through His voice
 - a. Genesis 1- "And God said..."
- B. His voice is powerful
 1. Breaks the cedars of Lebanon
 - a. Known as the biggest and strongest trees around at this time
 - b. Like a storm that knocks down and splits trees is the Lord's voice
 2. Makes Lebanon and Sirion to skip like calf and ox and shakes the wilderness of Kadesh
 - a. These were whole countries and lands
 - b. Could make them jump like baby animals who are very nervous
 - c. Like an earthquake that moves whole lands is the voice of the Lord
 3. God's voice shows His control over creation
 - a. Tells deer when to give birth
 - b. Can knock down all the trees of the forest
- C. His voice brings worship
 - a. "and in His Temple all cry 'Glory'"
 - b. When we see God's power and presence among us, we will ascribe Him glory
 - c. We will tell others about Him
 - d. We will go to His house and worship Him

III. So What??!!

- A. We need to be reminded of the Lord's power among us
 1. We desire to do it in our own strength so forget that the Lord is always at work in and through us
- B. We need to be reminded of the Lord's presence among us
 1. He is constantly with us
 2. He is working things out for his plan on our behalf
- C. When we realize these things we will not be able to help but worship Him
 1. Give Him glory

Song of the Week

- How Great Is Our God
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBD18rsVJHk>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What are some things that you know the Lord has done for you?
- What are some ways you have known the Lord is with you?
- What would it look like if you truly gave God glory in your whole life?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- Where are places that you have seen the Lord's power in your life or in creation?
- How have you felt God's Presence with you?
- What does it mean to ascribe the Lord glory? How specifically can you do that on a daily basis?

Psalm 29

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you did something that got a lot of attention? How did you handle it?

READ 1 PETER 4:10-16

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What are we supposed to do with the gifts God has given us?
- What should be the goal of our speaking and serving according to verse 11?
- How should we react to hard times and trials? Why?
- How can we bring glory to God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are a few of the gifts God has given you?
- What should be the reason we do everything? Why is that hard at times?
- How can we rejoice in trials?
- What is the last trial you faced because of your faith?
- What are ways you can glorify God at your school?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How have you used your gifts to glorify God?
- What would it look like at school to glorify God?
- How do our trials bring glory to God?
- What is the last trial you faced because of your faith?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: How Great is our God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBD18rsVJHk>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 29

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Have each one of you come up with 5 ways that you can glorify the Lord this week and a plan for how to do them.

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-31

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Whose good are we to seek? Why?
- What does it say about the Earth in verse 26?
- What does verse 31 tell us to do?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you have done good for your neighbor?
- How are you living in order to truly glorify the Lord?
- Be honest. What is usually the reason that you do what you do?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does it mean that all things are lawful but not all build up?
- What is a situation where something was okay to do but you knew it wouldn't build up someone else? What did you do?
- As you think about your life, who is it that you usually are trying to glorify? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: How Great is our God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBD18rsVJHk>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

4

Psalm 32

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are called to call out to the Lord in prayer

Psalm 32

Context

- A psalm written by David
- Most likely to be sung by the congregation (what Maskil probably means)

Outline

- I. **David reminds us of our blessings**
 - A. We are called blessed
 1. Same word used 66 times in the Old Testament as one who has great joy and blessing
 - B. Why are we blessed
 1. Because our transgressions and sins are forgiven and covered and our iniquities are not counted against us
 - a. God has taken away our sins from us by the work of Jesus on the cross
 - b. We are blessed because we are no longer under the curse of our sins
- II. **David tells us what to do**
 - A. Go to the Lord in prayer—"let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you"
 1. Includes confession
 - a. Acknowledging our sins
 - Need to admit our sins to the Lord (I John 1:8-9)
 - Need to not try and cover our sins (Hebrews 4:13)

2. Includes thanksgiving for what God has done
 - a. You are my hiding place
 - Place of protection
 - b. You surround me with shouts of deliverance
 - Reminders that we have been saved by Him
- B. Not keep silent
 1. Makes our bones waste away
 2. His hand is heavy upon us until we confess our sins

III. So What??!!

- A. We need to remember the ways in which we have been blessed by the Lord
 1. Easy to focus on what we don't have rather than what we do
- B. We need to be quick to talk to the Lord in prayer
 1. See our need for Him
 2. Talk and listen to Him

Song of the Week

- My Deliverer
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OC5eh-9LyI>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What are things you typically pray about? Why those things?
- What are things you think you should be praying more about?
- What are ways that you have been blessed by God?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- Where are reasons that you typically don't pray?
- What are ways that you need to confess more when you pray?
Anything specific you need to confess today?
- How often do you find yourself actually going to the Lord in prayer?

Psalm 32

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- If you had a walkie talkie that spoke directly to God, how would you use it?

READ MATTHEW 6:5-15

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does Jesus tell us to do about our prayers in verse 5 and 6?
- What is Jesus telling us about prayer in verse 7? What does that mean?
- Who already knows what we need?
- What sticks out to you from the Lord's prayer? Why?
- What does Jesus say about forgiveness? Why should we forgive others?
- How does this passage help us to worship God

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What is important about the fact that Jesus says "when you pray"?
- What are the things that most often keep you from praying?
- Why do you think prayer is so important?
- Do your typical prayers include the elements you find in the Lord's Prayer? Why or why not?
- How are you doing at forgiving others? Why is it hard?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are the things that most often keep you from praying?
- Why does Jesus spend so much time talking about prayer?
- What do your prayers mostly consist of? Why?
- How are you doing at forgiving others? Why is it hard?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: My Deliverer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OC5eh-9Lyl>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 32

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Make a list of people and things that you want to start praying for as a family and start to include those in your prayers for Family Devotions or at meals.

READ 1 JOHN 5:14-16

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What is our confidence when we pray?
- Why is it important that God hears our prayers?
- How do we know that God answers our prayers?
- Does He always answer the way we want?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What difference does it make to know that God hears you when you pray?
- How would you pray differently knowing that?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Do you truly believe that God hears you when you pray?
- Do you truly believe that God answers our prayers?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: My Deliverer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OC5eh-9Lyl>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

5

Psalm 46

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to be still before God in trust
even in the midst of hardships all around

Psalm 46

Context

- A psalm written by Sons of Korah (served in the Sanctuary, 1 Chronicles 9:19)
- To be sung by the congregation

Outline

- I. The world seems out of control
 - A. Creation is in chaos
 1. The Earth gives way
 2. Mountains moved into heart of the sea
 3. Waters roar and foam
 - B. People are at war
 1. Nations rage and kingdoms totter
 - C. Easy to believe that God is either not there or not strong enough to help
- II. God is in control
 - A. God is in midst of His people
 1. In the city of God
 - B. God will help His people
 1. God is in control of nature
 - a. He utters His voice and the earth melts
 2. God is in control of people
 - a. He makes wars to cease
 - b. Breaks bow and shatters spear and burns chariots with fire
 - Destroys the weapons of war
 - C. He will be exalted in the Earth
 1. He is the ruler and King of all

III. How should we respond

A. Be still

1. When the world seems crazy we either work or worry
 - a. Try to fix it in our own strength
 - b. Allow fear and worry to control us and forget the Lord
2. We are called to be still and wait upon Him
 - a. Requires us to trust Him

B. Know that He is God

1. Need to remember who He is
 - a. Creator and King of all the Earth
 - b. God of Jacob
 - Unexpected that God would refer to Himself this way
 - Jacob was a deceiver and schemer
 - Got birthright and blessing that belonged to Esau by being shady
 - God even changed his name to Israel
 - c. God wants to remind us that He is the God of imperfect people like us
 - Don't have to have it all together
 - When the world is going wild we don't have to believe that we are being punished
 - God came to rescue and save sinners
 - d. Lord of Hosts

"God is the Lord of hosts, for he has all the creatures which are called the hosts of heaven and earth at his beck and command, and he makes what use he pleases of them, as the instruments either of his justice or of his mercy. This sovereign Lord is with us, sides with us, acts with us, and has promised he will never leave us. Hosts may be against us, but we need not fear them if the Lord of hosts be with us." (Matthew Henry)
2. Need to remember where He is
 - a. With us
 - He does not leave us alone in midst of hardship
 - Deuteronomy 31:6

Song of the Week

- Still
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3wwWFsSINO>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- Where are places that it seems like God is not in control? Why?
- What does it mean when God calls Himself the God of Jacob? How does that make you feel?
- What difference would it make if you truly believed that God is with you?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What would it mean for you to “be still and know that I am God”?
- Where do you feel like God is not in control in the world? In your life? Why?
- What difference does it make that God calls Himself the “God of Jacob”?

Psalm 46

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you had to wait for a really long time for something? What was the hardest part?

READ EXODUS 14:5-14

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What happens when the king of Egypt was told people had fled?
- How does he respond?
- How did the Israelites respond when they saw Pharaoh and his army?
- What did Moses say to the people?
- What did the people have to do to protect themselves?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How would you feel if you were Israel knowing that Pharaoh and his army were coming?
- When is a time that you found yourself afraid? How did you respond?
- What is interesting about how Israel responds?
- How does what Moses said to the people apply to you as well?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What happens with Pharaoh and the Israelites?
- How would you handle that same situation?
- How have you blamed God for a difficult situation?
- What is a situation in your life right now where you just need to be silent and trust rather than do something?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Still: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3wwWFsSINQ>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 46

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is the hardest thing you have had to do lately? How did you get help?

READ ZECHARIAH 2:1-13

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What is happening to Jerusalem here? Who is doing it?
- What does verse 5 say that the Lord will be for Jerusalem?
- What does God call His people in verse 8?
- What does God say He will do to those who hurt His people in verse 9?
- How should God's people respond?—verse 10
- What does God say we need to do to protect ourselves in verse 13?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- If God came to measure your life, what would He find?
- How does it make you feel that you are the apple of God's eye?
- How does God say He will protect His people? How should we respond?
- Why do we have such a hard time being still and trusting God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How should you live differently knowing how God feels about you?
- How does God say He will protect His people? How should we respond?
- What would it look like for you to truly be still before God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Still: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3wwWFsSINO>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

6

Psalm 51

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to confess our sins to the Lord

Psalm 51

Context

- A psalm written by David
- Written in response to his sin with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:1-12:15)

Outline

- I. David has been caught in his sin
 - A. Was convicted by Nathan the prophet
 - B. Goes to the Lord to confess his sin
- II. What does David do in order to confess his sin?
 - A. Understands the depth of his sin
 1. Always before me
 2. Sinful from birth
 - B. Understands who His sin was really against
 1. Against God and Him alone
 - C. Understands only God can take it away
 1. Wash and cleanse me
 - a. Revelation 7:14
 - b. Need to be washed in blood of the Lamb
 2. Hide face from my sin and blot out my transgressions
 - a. Knows that God can't be where sin is
 3. Deliver me from guilt
 - a. Needs to have guilt taken away

D. Appeals to God's mercy

1. Asks for mercy
 - a. Out of His steadfast love

III. What would David's response be to forgiveness?

A. He doesn't do these things to earn forgiveness because he can't

1. God wouldn't be pleased with sacrifice or offering
2. God wants a broken and sorry heart

B. He does these out of thanksgiving for God forgiving him

1. Asks God to give him a new heart
2. Asks God to restore joy of his salvation to him
3. Asks God to not take away Holy Spirit
4. He will teach other sinners God's ways
 - a. Bring sinners to God
5. He will declare God's praises

IV. SO WHAT??!!

- A. We need to constantly confess our sins to the Lord
- B. We need to see our sin rightly—rebellion against a holy God
- C. We need to ask God for forgiveness

Song of the Week

- God Be Merciful to Me
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjPzIDvaYfU>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What did David do when he was caught in sin? What do you do?
- How are you living differently because you have been forgiven?
- How has Jesus done for you what David asked God to do?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What are ways you try to hide your sin from God or others?
- When is the last time you really confessed your sins to God? What usually keeps you from doing it?
- How do you typically respond when you are caught in sin? Why?
- What difference does forgiveness make in your everyday life?
- What are ways you try to treat your sin like it's not a big deal?

Psalm 51

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time you got caught doing something wrong? How did you handle it?

READ 1 JOHN 1:5-10

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What are we told about God here?
- What are we called to do in verse 7?
- What happens if we say we have no sin?
- What are we called to do in verse 9? What does that mean?
- What will God do if we do?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways you can walk in the light?
- Are there ever times when you think you aren't a sinner?
- How often do you confess your sins to the Lord?
- What do we miss out on by not confessing our sins?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What would it look like if you truly walked in the light?
- How often do you compare your sin against other people instead of against God's perfection?
- What are the things that keep you from confessing your sins?
- How does knowing we are forgiven change how we live?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: God Be Merciful to Me: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjPzIDvaYfU>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 51

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time you did something wrong but didn't get caught? Did you ever confess what you did? Why or why not?

READ LUKE 18:9-14

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Who were the two people who went into the temple to pray?
- What do you know about Pharisees and tax collectors?
- What did the Pharisee pray?
- How did the tax collector pray? What did he pray?
- What did Jesus say about their prayers?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Who were the people that Jesus was telling this parable to? Does that ever describe you?
- How have been tempted to see others the way the Pharisee did?
- Do you see yourself more like the tax collector or the Pharisee? Why?
- What did the Pharisee want from God? What did the tax collector want?
- Who got what they wanted from God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you look down on others to make yourself feel better?
- Are your prayers more about you or about God?
- Do you most identify with the Pharisee or tax collector? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: God Be Merciful to Me: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjPzIDvaYfU>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

7

Psalm 66

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to constantly be coming to God

Psalm 66

Context

- A psalm written to be sung
- Author was not stated
- Is a Psalm of Thanksgiving

Outline

- I. **Recap of what God has done**
 - A. How awesome are your deeds—verse 3
 - B. So great is your power—verse 3
 1. Shown by His power over His enemies
 - C. Kept our soul among the living—verse 9
 1. Protected His people
 2. Has not let their foot slip
 - D. Brought us to a place of abundance—verse 12
 1. After a time of testing and trial
- II. **Response to what God has done—worship**
 - A. Shout for joy
 - B. Sing to glory of His Name
 - C. All the Earth worships you

III. Invitation to come and see

- A. God wants us to remember what He has done for His people over time but He also wants us to experience His work personally
 - 1. What He has done and will do for us
- B. Come and see what God has done—verse 5
 - 1. Turned sea into dry land—Exodus 14
 - 2. Eyes keep watch on the nations
- C. I will come into your house—verse 13
 - 1. To worship the Lord
 - a. With offerings
 - b. Fulfill vows I made when in trouble
- D. Come and hear—verse 16
 - 1. Cried out to Him and He heard my prayer
 - 2. Continues to have steadfast love for His people

IV. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God invites us to come to Him
 - 1. So that we can see His goodness for ourselves
 - 2. So that we can praise Him for what He has done not just for others but for us personally
- B. We answer His invitation when we:
 - 1. Worship together with God's people
 - 2. Spend time in His Word and prayer

Song of the Week

- Come and Listen
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUxF3LULDG4>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What are things that God has done just for you?
- What does it mean to you that God invites you to come to Him?
- What are the things that keep you from coming to Him?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What are the reasons that you worship God?
- How have you seen God bless other people? How have you seen Him be at work in your life?
- Why do you think that God wants you to come to Him?
- What things keep you from coming to Him?

Psalm 66

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time when you felt the most relaxed and rested? Why?

READ MATTHEW 11:28-30

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does Jesus tell them to do?
- Who is He asking to come to Him?
- What does He say He will give to them?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- When is a time you have felt heavy laden?
- What is the yoke that Jesus wants you to take?
- What does Jesus want to give you in verse 29? How does that sound?
- What are ways that you can come to Jesus to get rest?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How does it sound that Jesus is offering you some rest?
- What things are making you feel heavy laden?
- What are ways that you can come to Jesus to get rest?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Come and Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUxF3LULDG4>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 66

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your favorite meal? Why?

READ ISAIAH 55:1-2

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Who does God call to come?
- Where does He call them to come?
- What does God tell people they will get?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why does God call those who have no money? How will they get what they need?
- How do you try and find satisfaction from places other than God?
- How are you spending your effort and energy on what doesn't satisfy?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How often do you feel like you have to earn blessings from God? Why?
- What are ways you have been trying to satisfy yourself?
- What are the ways you have labored and spent and not been satisfied? Why do you think that is?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Come and Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUxF3LULDG4>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

8

Psalm 67

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to praise God and bring others to praise Him as well

Psalm 67

Context

- A psalm written to be sung
- Author was not stated
- Is a Psalm of Thanksgiving
- We are told the instruments to be used—stringed instruments

Outline

- I. **Blessings of God**
 - A. Psalm begins with a form of the priestly blessing
 1. Numbers 6:24-26
 - B. God gives us grace
 1. Doesn't treat us as our sins deserve
 2. Provides forgiveness for our sins
 - C. God makes His face shine upon us
 1. Does not turn away from us
 2. Gives us His light
- II. **Benefits of God**
 - A. Judges the peoples with equity
 1. God seeks justice for all the Earth
 - B. Guides all the nations
 1. He is working for good of all people
 - C. Earth yields its increase
 1. He provides for all people of the Earth

III. Our response—what are we to do with God’s blessings and benefits?

- A. That your way be known on Earth
 - 1. Saving power among all nations
- B. Let peoples praise you—repeated twice—verses 3 and 5
 - 1. All the peoples
 - a. Not just God’s people
 - b. We are to spread what we know about God to the whole Earth
 - c. So that ALL may praise God for who He is and what He has done
- C. Let ends of Earth fear Him
 - 1. Be in awe of Him
 - 2. Worship

IV. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God invites us to participate in the salvation of the nations
 - 1. We are to remember what He has done
 - 2. We are to praise Him for what He has done
 - 3. We are to tell others about what He has done
 - 4. We are to teach others to praise Him

Song of the Week

- All the Heavens
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJIEbtYuynM>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What are ways you are praising God in your life?
- Who are people you know who need to be praising God but aren't? How can you tell them about God so that they will praise Him?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What does it mean to you that God is gracious to you?
- What does it mean to you that God shines His face on you?
- What are ways that you are telling others about God?
- What are ways that you are teaching others to praise Him?

Psalm 67

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your favorite part about church and what is your least favorite?

READ COLOSSIANS 3:16-17

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What are we to do with God's Word? How do we do that?
- What else are we supposed to do?
- How often do you sing songs like this?
- What should we do in all things? What does that look like?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How are you letting God's Word dwell in you?
- How are we supposed to sing together?
- How are you doing all things in the Name of Jesus?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How do you spend time in God's Word?
- How important is worship to your daily and weekly routine?
- What are ways that you are living to bring glory to God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: All the Heavens: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJIEbtYuynM>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 67

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What are your favorite things to do on the weekends? Why?

READ PSALM 150

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does verse 1 tell us to do?
- Where are we to do it?
- Why are we to do it?
- How are we to do it?
- Who should do it?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you are praising God?
- Where are you doing it and how?
- Why should you praise God?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does praising God look like in your daily life?
- How are you living out Psalm 150?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: All the Heavens: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJIEbtYuynM>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

9

Psalm 95

PURPOSE

To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to sing to the Lord

Psalm 95

Context

- Historical Psalm
- Author was not stated
- Was written to warn people not to repeat the sin of earlier generation
 - Exodus 17:1-7
 - Numbers 14:21-35

Outline

- I. We are called to sing—verse 1
 - A. Because of who God is
 1. Great King above all gods—verse 3
 - a. He is the one and only True God
 - b. Far greater than the gods the other people worshipped
 2. Holds the entire earth in His hand—verse 4
 - a. Depths of earth
 - b. Heights of mountains
 - c. All of the sea
 - d. He created it and is in control of it all
 3. Rock of our Salvation—verse 1
 4. Our Maker—verse 6
 - a. He not only created the earth but us as well
 - b. We belong to Him

5. Our God—verse 7
 - a. We are His people and He is our God
 - b. Claims us and cares for us
 - Sheep of His hand
 - B. Our response should be songs of worship
 1. Make a joyful noise—repeated twice
 2. Come into His presence with thanksgiving
 3. Come let us worship and bow down
- II. We are not called to complain**
- A. As His people did in the past – Exodus 17:1-7
 1. People complained about the conditions and even said they wanted to return to slavery in Egypt
 2. Meribah – means arguing
 3. Massah – means testing
 - B. God’s response to their complaining—Numbers 14:21-35
 1. Wandered for 40 years in the wilderness
 2. Not allowed to enter Promised Land
- III. SO WHAT??!!**
- A. When we truly see how great God is we will not be able to help but worship Him with songs

Song of the Week

- Come, Let Us Worship
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBX3OJ3swIU>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- What songs are your favorites to sing in worship? Why?
- What things do you tend to complain about when it comes to God? Why?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- What are the things you most often find yourself complaining to God about? Why?
- What things keep you from singing God's praises?
- What songs do you most enjoy to worship the Lord with? Why?

Psalm 95

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your favorite song right now? Why that one?

READ 1 CHRONICLES 16:23-27

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does verse 23 say we should do?
- Why should we do that?—verses 25-27
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How often do you think about all that the Lord has done for you?
- What difference would it make if you thought about it daily?
- What does he say about idols in verse 26?
- What are the idols that you most often worship?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How could you declare God's glory to others? Why is it hard to do?
- What are ways that you are holding God in awe?
- What things do you worship besides God? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Come Let Us Worship: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBX3OJ3swlU>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 95

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What are things in your life that you are most thankful for? Why? How can you express how thankful you are for them?

READ ISAIAH 12:1-6

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does verse 1 tell us to do?
- What does verse 2 say that God is?
- What does it mean to you that God is your song?
- What does verse 3 say we should do?
- What do verses 5-6 say we should do?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why in verse 1 are we to be thankful?
- What are some words you would use to describe who God is?
- What difference does it make that God is your song?
- How can you make God and His deeds known among the people?
- How are you singing and shouting about God in your daily life?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does verse 1 say about God's anger?
- How often do you feel like He is angry with you? What does this verse say in response to that?
- What does it look like for God to be your song?
- What are ways that your life is making God known?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Come Let Us Worship: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBX3OJ3swlU>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

10

Psalm 100

PURPOSE

*To see how we as God's people should respond
because of what God has done for us*

WEEKLY FOCUS

We are to enter His gates and courts in order to worship Him

Psalm 100

Context

- Psalm of Thanksgiving
- Author was not stated
- Closes section of Kingship hymns about God

Outline

- I. We are to remember who God is
 - A. He is God
 1. He is all powerful and all-knowing
 - B. He made us and we are His
 1. He created us
 2. He cares for us as His sheep
 - a. We are utterly dependent upon Him
 - C. He is good
 1. Not only powerful but good
 2. Loving
 - a. Steadfast love endures forever
 - b. His love doesn't change
 3. Faithful
 - a. Even when we are faithless He is faithful
- 2 Timothy 2:13
 - b. For all generations
- Extends even to us who live long after this psalm was written

II. We are to go to Him with worship

- A. Come into His presence with singing
- B. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise
 - 1. To give thanks and bless His Name
- C. At this time, this was done at the temple
 - 1. Where God "lived" and where worship happened
 - a. God's spirit entered the Temple for the benefit of the people
- 2 Chronicles 5:11-14
- D. Now it is the church
 - 1. We come to the church to worship God with other believers
 - 2. Important for us to have corporate worship as an important part of our lives

III. SO WHAT??!

- A. God calls us to come and worship Him because of who He is and what He has done for us
- B. We need to make corporate worship (worship with the church) as a priority in our weeks and come ready to praise Him

Song of the Week

- Make a Joyful Noise
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZoVfTgQQcE>

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from the lesson this morning?
- What did you learn about how you should respond to what God has done for you?
- How often do you find yourself going to God in worship?
- What things keep you from going to worship the Lord at the church on Sundays? Why?
- Why do you think it is important to God for you to come to Him to worship?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the lesson this morning?
- How often do you come to worship on Sundays?
- What things seem to get in the way of worship?
- Why do you think it is so important to God for us to come to Him in worship?

Psalm 100

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Where is your favorite place to be? Why?

READ HEBREWS 10:19-25

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does verse 19 say we have confidence to do?
- Who do you think is in the holy place?
- What does verse 22 say we should do?
- What does verse 24 say we should do?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are the great benefits of Jesus' blood shed for you?
- What are ways that you can draw near to God?
- What things get in the way of doing that?
- How are you stirring up others to love and good works?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How often do you find yourself drawing near to God?
- What things get in the way of doing that?
- Who are the people in your life that are stirring you up for God and who are you doing that for?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZoVfTgQQcE>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Psalm 100

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What are you most looking forward to in the next year? Why?

READ REVELATION 21:1-4

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What did John see when he looked up?
- What came down out of heaven?
- Has this happened yet?
- Where is God's dwelling place going to be? Why is that important?
- What will God do for us in verse 4? How does that make you feel?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How often do you think about heaven?
- What is the picture that John gives us about the city in God in verse 2? How does that apply and what does it make you think of?
- Where will God ultimately reside for eternity?
- What of the things listed in verse 4 are you most excited about not having to deal with anymore? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What difference does it make that God will live amongst His people forever?
- How does that affect how you live here on Earth?
- What of the things listed in verse 4 are you most excited about not having to deal with anymore? Why?
- How does this passage help us to worship God?

SONG: Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZoVfTgQQcE>

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

